



# YORK-POQUOSON SHERIFFS OFFICE

## BIKE PATROL UNIT

*J.D. "Danny" Diggs, Sheriff*



### BIKE SAFETY TIPS

- 
1. **ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET**, even if you're just cruising the bike path or prowling the neighborhood. When shopping for a helmet, make sure it's designed for bicycling, and meets ANSI, SNELL or CP standards. Be sure your helmet fits properly.
  2. **ALWAYS STOP AT THE END OF THE DRIVEWAY**. Many crashes between vehicles and bicycles occur when kids don't stop at the end of the driveway to look both ways. They simply drive into traffic, or they get hit while crossing a driveway on the sidewalk from a vehicle pulling out of the driveway.
  3. **ALWAYS RIDE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD**. In most states, your bicycle is regarded as a vehicle when it's being ridden on the street. You should always ride on the right side of the street, just like you would in a car, even if you're just going a block or two.
  4. **OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS**. In most states, your bike is considered a vehicle, which means you have the same right to the road as a car, but also means you must obey traffic laws just like a car. Obey stop signs and stop lights, and learn and follow all traffic laws and signals.
  5. **BE PREDICTABLE**. Don't do anything that would surprise the driver of a car. Don't swerve, weave in and out of traffic, or run stop signs or stoplights.
  6. **SIGNAL WHEN MAKING A TURN**. It helps motorists a lot if they know what to expect. Let them know where you're going by using proper hand signals for turning and stopping.
  7. **BE SEEN, BE VISIBLE TO TRAFFIC AND OTHER CYCLISTS**. Sometimes it's hard for drivers to see bicyclists because we're smaller than cars. Wear light-colored clothing when you ride, and try to get a brightly colored helmet so you'll be easier to spot.
  8. **DON'T RIDE TOO CLOSE TO PARKED CARS**. Cars can still be dangerous when their parked. The driver may suddenly open the door in your path, or pull out suddenly. Leave at least three feet of distance when passing parked cars, and be alert for cars that may be pulling out onto the roadway in front of you.
  9. **DON'T CLOWN AROUND**. Never hitch a ride on a moving vehicle, or do stunts or wheelies on a road with cars or trucks. Never ride with more than one person on a bike, unless the bike has more than one seat.
  10. **ALWAYS RIDE SAFE**